IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. **(Original)** A pharmaceutical composition comprising metaxalone and pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, characterized in that the pharmaceutical composition has enhanced oral bioavailability.

2. **(Original)** A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the metaxalone used is a pharmaceutically acceptable solubility-improved form.

3. **(Original)** A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 2, wherein the solubility-improved form is micronised metaxalone.

4. **(Original)** A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 2, wherein the solubility-improved form is a salt form of metaxalone.

5. **(Original)** A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 2, wherein the solubility-improved form is a high-energy crystalline form of metaxalone.

6. **(Original)** A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 2, wherein the solubility-improved form is amorphous metaxalone.

7. **(Original)** A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the composition comprises a mixture of metaxalone and a solubilizing agent.

8. **(Original)** A pharmaceutical composition comprising metaxalone and pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, wherein the metaxalone used has the following particle size distribution characteristics: 99% undersize value between 10 and 40μm, 90% undersize value between 6 and 30μm, and 50% undersize value between 3 and 10μm, characterised in that the pharmaceutical composition has enhanced oral bioavailability.

9. **(Original)** A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 8, wherein the metaxalone used has specific surface area per unit volume of more than $1.5m^2/cm^3$.

10. **(Original)** A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 9, wherein the metaxalone used has specific surface area per unit volume of more than $2.5m^2/cm^3$.

11. **(Original)** A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 10, wherein the metaxalone used has specific surface area per unit volume of more than $3.0m^2/cm^3$.

12. **(Original)** A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 8, wherein the metaxalone used has the following particle size distribution characteristics: 99% undersize value of 40μm, 90% undersize value of 30μm, and 50% undersize value of 10μm.

13. **(Original)** A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein the metaxalone used has the following particle size distribution characteristics: 99% undersize value of 30μm, 90% undersize value of 14μm, and 50% undersize value of 6μm.

14. **(Original)** A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein the metaxalone used has the following particle size distribution characteristics: 99% undersize value of 10μm, 90% undersize value of 5μm, and 50% undersize value of 3μm.

15. **(Original)** A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the amount of metaxalone used is in the range of 400mg to 1600mg.

16. **(Original)** A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable excipient includes a wetting agent.

17. **(Original)** A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 16, wherein the wetting agent used is a surfactant.

18. **(Original)** A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 17, wherein the surfactant used is sodium lauryl sulfate.

19 – 22 **(Cancelled)**

23. **(Original)** A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 1 wherein the pharmaceutical composition further comprises an analgesically effective amount of a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug, wherein said nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug comprises a propionic acid derivative, acetic acid derivative, fenamic acid derivative,

biphenylcarboxylic acid derivative or an oxicam, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

24. **(Original)** A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 8 wherein the pharmaceutical composition further comprises an analgesically effective amount of a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug, wherein said nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug comprises a propionic acid derivative, acetic acid derivative, fenamic acid derivative, biphenylcarboxylic acid derivative or an oxicam, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

25 – 26 **(Cancelled)**

REMARKS

The above amendments are editorial changes to put the claims of the above-identified international application in compliance with the U.S. practice.

Respectfully submitted,
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By: _____

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